Status of Plan for South Puget Sound/Hood Canal Model Development

Givens

- There will be overlaps between models in Puget Sound (different scales, computer environments, agencies, etc.)
- There is currently no water quality model for all of Puget Sound
- Models are under development in several sub-regions and inlets of Puget Sound
- Sub-region models can be scaled up to encompass entire Sound
- Nutrient models can be expanded to include toxics
- EPA's interest is development of TMDLs (multiyear processes)
- Ecology has legal/regulatory requirements to develop TMDLs and NPDES permits based on water quality assessment

Work in Progress

- Ecology staff trained in GEMSS model framework (5/06)
- Preliminary model of Hood Canal hydrodynamics completed by Ecology and UW
- UW beginning water quality model development (5/06)
- Preliminary Budd Inlet water quality model completed (5/06)
- HCDOP collecting Hood Canal water quality data (ongoing)
- Ecology monitoring plan for 2006 South Puget Sound monitoring (ongoing)

Goals

- Initial calibrated water quality model of Hood Canal in winter 2007
- Source Assessment findings for Hood Canal in spring 2007
- Comprehensive data collection in South Puget Sound in summer 2006
- Initial calibrated water quality model of South Puget Sound in winter 2008
- Source Assessment findings for South Puget Sound in spring 2008